FBIS DAILY REPORT

MIDDLE EAST & SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

30 AUGUST 1984

Iran-Iraq War

An Iranian F-4 military plane landed at an Iraqi airport on 30 August, and the two pilots requested asylum, Baghdad Voice of the Masses radio reported.

Lebanon

Pierre al-Jumayyil Death — Phalange Party leader Shaykh Pierre al-Jumayyil, minister of posts, communications, health, and social affairs; and father of President Amin al-Jumayyil; died in Bikfayya on 29 August and will be buried on 30 August, Beirut radio announced. The prime minister's office declared an official 3-day mourning period throughout the country, Voice of Lebanon radio noted.

Political Developments — The Cabinet met in Bikfayya and discussed "important administrative affairs and pending government business," although no "important political decisions" emerged, Beirut radio reported. A meeting had been held earlier between President al-Jumayyil, Prime Minister Rashid Karami, and Ministers Nabih Birri and Walid Junblatt, the radio noted. Following the earlier meeting, Junblatt affirmed that he does not want "differences" with the president, and that he respects him, according to Voice of Lebanon. In remarks broadcast by the radio, Karami described the atmosphere of the meeting as "positive," with a "spirit of cooperation."

Security Situation — Renewed clashes occurred in west Beirut, Beirut radio reported. However, the clashes were "limited" and the 6th Brigade carried out its task in maintaining security, the clandestine Voice of Arab Lebanon radio added. Meanwhile, small-arms fire was exchanged in the Ash-Shuwayfat and Kafr Shima area in the mountain, according to the clandestine Radio Free Lebanon. In Tripoli, the security situation "violently exploded" when clashes broke out throughout the city, the clandestine Voice of the Mountain radio reported.

Sudan

Attack on Ferry — The Sudanese People's Liberation Army (SPLA) killed at least 270 government troops in an attack on a "convoy" in the Upper Nile area on 27 August, according to an SPLA statement cited by JANA. An Armed Forces official source cited by SUNA stated that a ferry on the Sobat River in the south had been attacked by "outlaws" on 28 August, but that only four soldiers were "slightly injured."

Red Sea Security Conference— Egypt has agreed to attend a conference on security in the Red Sea after Egyptian President Husni Mubarak received the invitation from President Ja'far Numayri, MENA reported. Saudi Arabia will also attend the conference, Riyadh radio noted citing a responsible government source. Meanwhile, Foreign Minister Hashim 'Uthman delivered a message concerning Red Sea security from Numayri to YAR President 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih, San'a' radio reported.

Libya

In a speech, reported by JANA, at the opening ceremony of the international conference marking the 15th anniversary of the 1 September Revolution, Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi proposed that Libya become an "international platform" for the fight against "colonialism, racism, fascism, and reaction." He also proposed that the "collective struggle" against Israel, South Africa, the United States, the United Kingdom, and France, including the liberation of French colonies throughout the world, begin in Libya.

In a 28 August speech broadcast by Tripoli Voice of Greater Arab Homeland radio, Al-Qadhdhafi stated during the inauguration of the "great artificial river" project that he hoped one day to see the project linked with the Nile water projects in Egypt and Sudan. He also expressed the desire to see Egypt and Sudan "liberated" and stated that Libya will "struggle" with the Egyptian and Sudanese people until their "wills" are liberated.

In a separate development, Al-Qadhdhafi received the Moroccan interior minister and an adviser to Moroccan King Hassan II, Tripoli radio reported.

Algeria

Foreign Minister Ahmed Taleb Ibrahimi received his French counterpart Claude Cheysson and exchanged political views with him, Algiers radio reported. Meanwhile, President Chadli Bendjedid held a telephone conversation with his Syrian counterpart Hafiz al-Asad on bilateral issues and topics discussed during the latter's recent visit to Algeria, SANA noted.

Mauritania-SDAR

SDAR Prime Minister Mahfoud Ali Beiba departed Mauritania after a 3-day visit, Nouakchott radio reported.

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Karmal Cables Al-Qadhdhafi on Anniversary

LD300633 Kabul BAKHTAR in English 0427 GMT 30 Aug 84

[Text] Kabul, August 29, BAKHTAR — Babrak Karmal, general secretary of the PDPA CC and president of Revolutionary Council of the DRA, sent a congratulatory telegram to Tripoli addressed to Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi, the leader of the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah on the occasion of the 15th anniversary of September Revolution in that country. The telegram expresses confidence that the friendly relations between the two countries will be expanded in the interest of the people of the both countries for the cause of peace and security in the world.

Najibollah Addresses Panjsher Tribal Assembly

LD292156 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari 1600 GMT 29 Aug 84

[Text] A grand tribal assembly of elders and representatives of the workers of Hesah-e Awal and Dovvom subdistricts of Panjsher district on the solidarity and unity of the people with their revolutionary government was held in the Esteqlal school hall. The assembly was attended by Najibollah, member of PDPA Central Committee Politburo. A BAKHTAR correspondent reports that Haji Golistan, on behalf of the working people of Hesah-e Awal; Ziauddin, on behalf of Hesah-e Awal Subdistrict; Wakel Yar Mohammad and Malik Zerdad, on behalf of Hesah-e Dovvom Subdistrict, spoke at this grand assembly about their unity and infallible solidarity with our revolutionary government, and expressed their profound support for the principled policy of the party and revolutionary government and for the prosperity and well-being of the millions of the masses of the country.

A resolution about the demands and pledges of the working people of Panjsher district was read and approved by those attending the assembly.

In the final speech, Najibollah addressed those attending: Dear compatriots, elders, chiefs and representatives of the working people of Panjsher, once again I give you an assurance that our revolutionary government is trying to give assistance to the persecuted people of our beloved country.

Najibollah, in his detailed speech, said that the party and the revolutionary Government of Afghanistan has and will endeavor to be always at the service of their persecuted people and on this path, as far as it is possible, have not spared any effort and will not to do so. In explaining the comprehensive objectives of the policy of our party and revolutionary government for the prosperity and well-being of the country's workers, blossoming of the beloved homeland and exposure of the crimes of the counter-revolutionaries, Najibollah assured the people of Panjsher that no cooperation and assistance will be spared for their peaceful life.

The tribal assembly was ended by offering prayers for the progress of the beloved country and the well-being of the workers of revolutionary Afghanistan.

Kabul Province Bandit Hideouts Raided

LD300636 Kabul BAKHTAR in English 0430 GMT 30 Aug 84

[Text] Kabul, August 29, BAKHTAR — The process of mopping-out of the bandits and counterrevolutionaries who have been exported to Afghanistan by U.S. imperialism and the reaction of the region is gaining momentum. As the result of successful operations carried out by the security forces of the DRA, a large quantity of arms and ammunitions were recovered in the districts of Kabul Province from the hideouts of bandits. The arms and ammunitions included 3 communication units, 146 heavy guns, 8 pistols, thirty thousand bullets and a lot of explosive materials.

Meeting Marks Pakistan Solidarity Day

LD300627 Kabul BAKHTAR in English 0428 GMT 30 Aug 84

[Text] Kabul, August 29, BAKHTAR — The Peace, Solidarity and Friendship Organization (PSFO) and National Fatherland Front (NFF) of the DRA marked August 29, the international day of solidarity with the national and democratic forces of Pakistan.

Secretary-in-charge of PSFO noted the oppressions of the military rulers of Pakistan and their usurpation of the national rights of the nationalities of Pashtun, Baluch, Sind and other nationalities through the old method of the British colonial policy. He, on behalf of PSFO and other social organizations, declared the solidarity of the people of Afghanistan with the Movement of the Restoration of Democracy (MRD) and supported the struggles of the Pakistan people for their civil, political, economic and national rights.

Representatives of NFF, Democratic Organization of Women, Central Council of the Trade Union, Department of Islamic Affairs also talked about the conspiracies and deceits of the military regime especially its lies regarding election in Pakistan. At the end of the meeting, the participants of the meeting adopted a resolution in which they declared their decisive and militant solidarity with the people of Pakistan and with the national and democratic forces of Pakistan.

The resolution expresses the unflinching support of the Afghan people to the valorous struggles of the working people for the restoration of democracy and the launching of free and democratic elections on the basis of Constitution of 1973. The participants of the meeting in the resolution strongly condemn the frantic military acts committed by Zia's regime in direct collaboration with the U.S. imperialism and the Chinese hegemonism directed against the cause of peace in the region and the world.

The resolution severely denounces the hostile efforts of imperialism, hegemonism and reaction for using the territory of Pakistan as a springboard of aggression against the DRA and the focal point of conspiracies against peace-loving India. The resolution asks the military regime of Pakistan to put an end to its shameless interventions in the internal affairs of Afghanistan. While

expressing their firm support to the peaceful and initiative proposals of the DRA dated May 14, 1980 and August 24, 1981 for the solution of the issues around Afghanistan, the participants of the meeting expressed hope that the current round of talks in Geneva would be changed to direct talks for the political and comprehensive settlement of the situation around the DRA.

Clandestine Radio on Mujahidin Operations

GF291020 (Clandestine) Voice of Islamic Revolution of Afghanistan in Dari 1715 GMT 28 Aug 84

[Summary] According to reports received from the mujahidin brothers, during the past 3 months the mujahidin Muslims have downed 12 Soviet and Karmal aircraft in the Paktia region alone. The reports add that the Karmal regime is facing an acute shortage of military personnel and is reconscripting those soldiers whose terms of service has ended.

Meanwhile, our Muslim mujahidin attacked government troops in the center of Farah Province and killed several of the enemy. In this attack, a political officer of the Kabul regime was killed. The reports say that these operations were carried out with the help of two military officers with the ranks of captain and major of the Karmal regime. These two officers joined the mujahidin after the operations.

According to a report, the leaders of the national resistance in Afghanistan have joined even closer in ranks in the war against the Soviet occupationist forces and their mercenaries. Our mujahidin in two operations against the Soviet soldiers in the first and second sectors of Qandahar destroyed four Soviet tanks and transport vehicles and killed several Soviet and Karmal soldiers. In this operation, three members of the Parcham and Khalq parties were also killed. Our Muslim brothers in another attack in Shindand destroyed several enemy tanks and killed several mercenaries. The mujahidin used artillery and rockets in this operation.

600 Akali Dal Members Held in Amritsar

BK300305 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 30 Aug 84

[Text] In Amritsar, more Akali Dal workers have been detained under the preventive provisions, raising the total number of such arrests in the state to 600. An official spokesman said the arrests have been made in apprehension of breach of peace.

Sikh Killed; Roadblocks Erected

BK300850 Hong Kong AFP in English 0838 GMT 30 Aug 84

[Excerpt] Amritsar, India, Aug 30 (AFP)— Paramilitary soldiers shot dead a Sikh here last night after he tried to snatch a Sten gun from a patrol, police said today.

It was the first time since the Indian Army stormed the Golden Temple here in June that an attempt was made to snatch firearms in the city.

A police spokesman told reporters that the patrol fired in self defence after the young man attempted to snatch a Sten gun near the Golden Temple.

Police today set up road blocks throughout Punjab state and strictly enforced regulations banning gatherings of more than five people to head off Sunday's planned world Sikh convention here which the government has outlawed, local officials said.

Sikh Youth Confessed to Pakistan Training

BK291623 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 29 Aug 84

[Text] A Sikh youth arrested at Sri Ganganagar in Rajasthan for alleged extremist activities has confessed to the police that he was trained in Pakistan. Giving this information to newsmen at Sri Ganganagar, a police official said that the youth is believed to be a member of the banned All India Sikh Students Federation. Working on the clues supplied by the youth, the police recovered two Sten guns and some cartridges.

Police Official Killed in Nagaland; Curfew Set

BK300331 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 30 Aug 84

[Text] According to a delayed report from Nagaland, an assistant commandant of the Nagaland armed police and two others including a woman were killed by underground extremists in Mun town on Monday. Three people were also injured in the incident. Indefinite curfew has been imposed in the town.

Bihar Strike Peaceful; 400 Arrested as Precaution

BK291617 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 29 Aug 84

[Text] In Bihar, the call for the 12-hour statewide bundh [strike] by some opposition parties passed off peacefully. The call was given to protest against the recent political events in Andhra Pradesh and Jammu and Kashmir.

Our Patna correspondent reports that life remained normal in the state. As a precautionary measure over 400 people were arrested.

The state chief minister, Mr Chandra Shekhar Singh, has claimed that the people had completely ignored the bundh call. On the other hand, the sponsors of the bundh claimed that it was a total success. In the Bihar assembly some opposition parties boycotted the day's proceedings.

Chandigarh Police Arrest One for Hijacking

BK291621 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 29 Aug 84

[Text] The Chandigarh police has arrested one person in connection with last Friday's hijacking of an Indian Airlines plane. The inspector general of police of the union territory said that the investigation of the case is in progress and efforts are being made to ascertain the identity of the remaining hijackers.

4 Held in Madras Airport Bombing

BK300335 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 30 Aug 84

[Text] In Madras, four more people have been arrested in connection with the recent bomb blast at Meenambakkam airport. The arrested include a trainee pilot of the Madras Flying Club. He is alleged to have made arrangements for the dispatch of the two suitcases containing explosives.

Andhra Pradesh Governor, Ministers Sworn In

BK291007 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0830 GMT 29 Aug 84

[Excerpt] Dr Shanker Dayal Sharma has been sworn in as the new governor of Andhra Pradesh. The acting chief justice of the Andhra Pradesh high court, Mr Chenna Kesava Reddy, administered the oath of office and secrecy to him at a simple ceremony at Raj Bhavan [governor's house] this morning. The chief minister, Mr Bhaskar Rao, his Cabinet colleagues, and officials were present.

Later, 17 more ministers, including 2 women, were inducted into the Cabinet. Of them, eight are of Cabinet rank and nine ministers of state. The new governor administered oath of office and secrecy to them.

USSR Support for Pan-Asian Conference Cited

BK291025 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0830 GMT 29 Aug 84

[Text] The Soviet Union has supported New Delhi's proposal to hold a Pan-Asian conference in India next year as part of the Indian National Congress centenary celebrations. The proposal

was discussed in Moscow at a meeting between the visiting Congress-I delegation and the officials of the Soviet Communist Party.

Comparison With Apartheid System Protested

BK291214 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 29 Aug 84

[Excerpts] The UN decolonization committee has called upon the Security Council to impose comprehensive mandatory sanctions on South Africa to force it to give independence to Namibia. Meanwhile, the chairman of the UN Special Committee Against Apartheid, Major General J.M. Garba, now in India, has had discussions with the officials of the External Affairs Ministry in New Delhi on the latest developments in South Africa. They also discussed ways and means of intensifying the struggle against apartheid.

India has lodged a strong protest with the world conference on religion and peace for its attempt to compare apartheid in South Africa with untouchability in India in one of its reports. The protest was conveyed by the Indian delegation attending the conference now in session in Nairobi. The delegation described the conference's attempt as unfair, unjust and mischievous.

Editorial on Pakistan's Nuclear Energy Program

BK251209 Madras THE HINDU in English 11 Aug 84 p 8

[Editorial "No Need To Overreact"]

[Text] For some time now, it has been clear that the Pakistani regime has given high priority to the development of the semi-clandestine part of its nuclear energy programme that is aimed, at the very least, at reaching basic nuclear explosives, or weapons, capability. This effort has been along two alternative routes — one of which is the plutonium reprocessing route — and major progress has evidently come with respect to the uranium enrichment facility at Kahuta and related activities. In notable contrast to the self-reliance of the research side of the Indian atomic energy programme, the Pakistani project has had to acquire in devious ways from abroad some of the electronic and other sensitive items of equipment believed to be essential in providing the trigger device. The closeness of the military dictatorship to a nuclear military capability is suggested by a large body of Western intelligence data as well as the information available with India, to judge by the former Defence Minister, Mr. R. Venkataraman's pronouncements on the subject in Parliament. In Pakistan itself, the official stances have been structured — through a seeming ambivalence — to project the message that while there is, of course, determination to get ahead on the militarily significant side of nuclear energy activity, the intentions of the programme are exclusively peaceful. The most authoritative guidance on the progress comes from Dr. A. Q. Khan, the nuclear scientist known to be leading the effort, who has claimed in an interview that Pakistan has reached uranium enrichment capability and that, if the government so decides, it can make nuclear weapons. In the most recent period, an external complication has been inserted into the controversy by the allegation, especially in the U.S. Congress, that China has been persisting with its help to Pakistan's clandestine nuclear activity. There can be no question that the development poses vital and potentially grave issues from the standpoint of India's national interests. Views have been put forward within the community specialising in strategic affairs and, to an extent, at the political level suggesting that there has been complacency in the national response; and a circular letter sent out by Mr. Krishan Kant (Servants of People Society) raises questions that tend to lead in the direction of proposing that India must decide right now on a major change in its nuclear policy and give up its commitment to exclusively peaceful, non-military uses.

The debate cannot be dodged nationally, however unwelcome the issues are to the votaries of "non-proliferation" in the West. However, an objective consideration of the developments in the sub-continent and in the region would seem to suggest that the existing framework of national policy on nuclear energy is quite capable of taking care of the new and changing elements in the picture. For one thing, India has not tied its hands or foreclosed its options — beyond affirming, correctly, its committment to the exclusively non-military or peaceful purposes of nuclear energy under the present set of circumstances. It has refused to accede to the blatantly discriminatory global nuclear bargain and to the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty and, despite pressures and some vacillations introduced into the national policy from time to time, has preserved intact its sovereignty and independence of action. It would obviously be compromising the national interest to give up the right to change the course, or to exercise unwelcome options, in the future if the situation so requires. Realism would make it clear that once Pakistan becomes a nuclear explosives or nuclear weapons power — even before it develops a major arsenal or a sophisticated delivery capability — there can be no preventing India from saying goodbye to its historical commitment against the military application of nuclear energy. On the other hand, there is no need to jump the gun and behave as if the strategic environment has already been perilously and sensationally transformed. There is nothing much India can do, at this stage, to cancel out its neighbour's progress on the research and militarily significant side of its nuclear energy programme; nevertheless, it must study the developments precisely and deeply and work out a measured response. Quite independently of these developments, the time has surely come to overcome on a priority basis the one major, policy-dictated weakness in what is otherwise a comprehensive nuclear energy venture — the absence of a facility capable of producing significant quantities of enriched uranium that would improve the nuclear power prospects and also keep other kinds of options open.

Zia on Relations With India, Afghan Talks

BK291551 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 1500 GMT 29 Aug 84

[Text] President General Mohammad Ziaul Haq has said that Pakistan's attitude toward India has always been and will continue to be positive and we expect similar behavior by India toward Pakistan. He was talking to newsmen on arrival in Lahore from Islamabad on a brief visit. He said we desire good relations with all our neighbors and want the creation of an atmosphere conducive to mutual confidence. He said this is absolutely necessary for the establishment of good relations.

Answering a question on developments taking place on the country's west and east, the president said these incidents, irrespective of where they are taking place, are undoubtedly regrettable. He said that although the situation in our west and east is not satisfactory, we are determined to do everything to defend ourselves. He said we will not be party to provocative acts, and we will continue to discharge our moral obligations. The president said that whatever the Afghan Army is doing there is a matter of concern for all of us. As far as incidents created by the Afghan side in Pakistani territory are concerned, there is no need for concern.

Answering a question about indirect talks on Afghanistan in Geneva, he said it would be premature to comment. He said, however, that the progress so far achieved is encouraging and he expected that this progress would continue. Answering another question on the latest incident of the Indian plane hijacked to Pakistan, the president said that the international press as well as the whole world is aware of the positve role Pakistan played in solving the matter. The president said we will continue to discharge our responsibility in the future as well. About the appointment of prayer organizers, he said so far 171,000 prayer organizers have been appointed. He added that it is merely a religious measure.

Complaints Lodged With UN on Afghan Border Incidents

BK300622 Karachi Overseas Service in Urdu 0500 GMT 30 Aug 84

[Text] Pakistan has lodged complaints with the United Nations over a number of border incidents in which 40 persons were killed and 25 wounded due to strafing by Afghan aircraft and Afghan artillery shelling. These complaints were made in four separate letters by Pakistani envoy S. Shah-Nawaz to UN Secretary General Perez de Cuellar.

The first letter said that on 18 August, 15 Afghan refugees and 1 Pakistani were killed and 11 wounded due to Afghan shelling at Teri Mangal outpost. Following this, the area was shelled again, resulting in the death of 12 refugees and 4 Pakistanis. On 18 August [as heard], Teri Mangal area was shelled again, killing two citizens and injuring four others, and on 21 August, three persons were killed and five wounded by Afghan artillery shelling. In another complaint it was stated that on 23 August, Afghan aircraft dropped two bombs in the region, resulting in the death of three and injury to two. The Pakistani envoy said the Pakistani Government takes strong notice of these incidents and warns that such incidents will lead to serious consequences for which Afghan authorities will be solely responsible.

Return of Afghan Refugees Discussed in Geneva

BK300750 Karachi Domestic Service in English 1700 GMT 29 Aug 84

[Text] At the indirect talks in Geneva today, the question of evolving an effective mechanism to consult the Afghan refugees about the conditions for their return home was discussed. During today's session, which lasted about 90 minutes, both the Pakistani and Kabul regime delegations gave their respective views to the UN special envoy, Mr Diego Cordovez, on the question. ASSOCIATED PRESS OF PAKISTAN, quoting sources (?representing at) the talks, says Mr Cordovez made some informal suggestions for the consideration of the interlocutors. They said if the parties at the talks are able to develop an agreed mechanism for consultation with the Afghan refugees, the process of consultations would be launched by Mr Cordovez through some UN agencies. The interlocutors also reviewed the work they have done so far and the developments that have taken place relating to the current round of talks. The Pakistani delegation at the talks was led by the foreign minister, Sahabzada Yaqub Khan. He gave a luncheon today in honor of Mr Cordovez.

Delhi: 22 Bhutto Supporters Sentenced in Absentia

BK300404 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 30 Aug 84

[Text] In Pakistan, a military court has sentenced in absentia 22 supporters of the former prime minister, the late Mr Bhutto, to 14 years hard labor. They have also been ordered to pay a fine of 50,000 rupees each. Those sentenced include two former members of parliament. They were charged with aiding the underground Al-Zulfiqar organization, which wants to overthrow the military government. All the 22 people are living abroad.

Zia Message to Ceausescu on Departure From Hungary

AU280949 Bucharest SCINTEIA in Romanian 26 Aug 84 p 4

[Text] To His Excellency Mr Nicolae Ceausescu, president of the Socialist Republic of Romania

Your Excellency, on leaving your beautiful country at the end of a memorable visit, I would like to express to you, Excellency, and to the Romanian Government and people our deep gratitude and cordial thanks for the opportunity to participate in celebrations organized on the 40th anniversary of the National Day of the Socialist Republic of Romania. Our presence in Bucharest was also an excellent occasion for us to exchange views on problems of common interest. I am convinced that relations between our peoples and countries will continue to develop more and more in coming years. I want to take this opportunity to convey our sincere wishes for good health and happiness to Your Excellency, and wishes for the country's progress, and the prosperity of the Romanian people. General Mohammad Ziaul Haq, president of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan.

BANGLADESH

9 Subdistricts Badly Affected by Floods

BK300158 Dhaka Domestic Service in English 0110 GMT 30 Aug 84

[Text] In Comilla District, nine upazilas [subdistricts] have been badly affected by floods. The upazilas are Homna, Daudkandi, Muradnagar, Comilla Sadar, Debidwar, Burichang, Brahmanpara, Chan Belo and Laksham. Reports reaching the chief martial law administrator secretariat in Dhaka from different affected areas say relief operations are continuing in full swing to minimize the sufferings of the people. The government has so far sanctioned 36.66 lakh taka in cash and over 112,000 maunds of wheat for gratuitous relief, (?test) relief and vulnerable group feeding in the district.

Meanwhile, the major rivers in the Brahmaputra and Ganges basin registered rise in their water level but are flowing below their danger level. The Ganges River crossed the danger level at Hardinge bridge and is flowing 10 cm above the danger level. The river is flowing below danger level at other points.

Dhaka on Damages

BK291439 Dhaka Overseas Service in Bengali 0905 GMT 29 Aug 84

["News commentary"]

[Excerpts] Heavy rains and floods one after another since last June had a disasterous effect on agriculture in the country. An assessment in the middle of June shows that 600,000 tons of foodgrains were destroyed in two subsequent floods. But on receiving fresh reports on damages from 238 flood-affected police station areas the Agriculture Ministry fears that the damage to crops could be much more than was assessed. The floods inundated thousands of acres of land and swept away large quantities of crops. It is obvious from the facts and figures of the losses that the farmers were badly affected this time by the floods.

Our farmers, who are poor and who lost everything in the prolonged flood this time, will not be able to restart cultivation under the present conditions unless they receive help and cooperation. Therefore, all possible assistance should be extended to them. They cannot recover again without the government's help and cooperation. However, it is a matter of gratification that the government is fully aware of the situation.

An important point is that national devastation and national disaster should be kept above politics. Everyone should come forward irrespective of party affiliation, views, or groups to share the task of relief and rehabilitation operations for the millions of poor and suffering people of the country. There was unprecedented flooding this time. Out of the total 460 subdistricts of the country, 402 were submerged and it affected a population of 26.6 million. Crops on a total of 5.2 million acres of land and 500,000 houses were destroyed, and 75,000 cattle were killed in the floods.

The government has sanctioned 58.2 million taka and 7,578,000 tons of wheat for the flood-affected people. The agricultural rehabilitation program has been intensified in the flood-affected areas with the objective that cultivation could be started as soon as the flood water receded. Elaborate steps have already been taken for the supply of high yielding variety of seeds and fertilizers to the farmers.

Agriculture is the backbone of our country and the economy of the country depends on it. Therefore, we should meet the damages caused by the recent floods.

NEPAL

USSR Foreign Affairs Ministry Official Visits

BK291619 Katmandu External Service in English 1450 GMT 29 Aug 84

[Text] Secretary General of the Soviet Ministry of Foreign Affairs Yuriy Fokin arrived in Katmandu this morning on a 2-day visit to Nepal.

SRI LANKA

Ministers Discuss Handling of Accused Terrorists

BK281229 Colombo International Service in English 1030 GMT 28 Aug 84

[Text] The minister of national security, Lalith Athulathmudali, will meet the government agent for Jaffna today. The purpose of the meeting is to draw up a plan to enable parents of suspected terrorists now held in camps to obtain information about them.

The minister told Sri Lanka Broadcasting Corporation this morning that action has been taken to expedite inquiries against Tamil youths now in detention and to release those not involved in terrorist activities as soon as possible. Those released will be given letters of identification. This will help them to prove their innocence if they are rearrested.

Today's discussion will be attended by the minister of regional development, C. Rajadurai, the minister of home affairs, K.W. Devanayagam, and the district minister for Jaffna, U.B. Wijekoon.

Minister's Visit To Stress Commitment to Arab Cause

BK281221 Colombo International Service in English 1030 GMT 28 Aug 84

[Text] A senior government minister plans to explain that the allowance of a limited Israeli presence in Sri Lanka has not altered the country's policy towards the Arab world when he begins a 2-week visit to Saudi Arabia this week.

It was reported today that transport and Muslim affairs minister, M.H. Mohamed, would leave for Saudi Arabia on Wednesday for a 2-week visit, during which he hopes to meet Arab leaders and foreign ministers who will be there for the annual haj

pilgrimage to Mecca. Mr Mohamed is expected to carry a special message from the government underlining Sri Lanka's continued committment to the Arab cause and explaining the recent visit to Israel by a senior state official.

Delhi Reports TULF To Attend Conference
BK281615 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 28 Aug 84

[Text] The TULF of Sri Lanka would attend the resumed political talks in Colombo tomorrow. The conference was convened by President Jayewardene to discuss the ethnic issue. But another Tamil party — the All Ceylon Tamil Congress — has made it known that it would not attend the conference. The TULF had walked out of the last meeting convened by President Jayewardene.

Khomeyni Addresses Message to Pilgrims

LD291402 Tehran IRNA in English 1340 GMT 29 Aug 84

[Text] Tehran, Aug. 29, IRNA — In a message on the occasion of Id al-Adha Sept. 6, the leader of the Islamic Revolution of Iran, Imam Khomeyni, stressed that Bayt Allah al-Haram (House of God) is, to begin with, a sanctuary for the masses and no one person, government or group should be permitted to enjoy any priority in their association with that sanctuary.

The message, released Aug. 26, further noted that this dignified sanctuary has been erected for uprising of the masses and in their interest.

"But what greater common benefit than that vested in the curtailing of the hands of the world tyrants from tyrannized countries which can also assure their curtailment from the rich resources in those countries," the message said.

It added that elements dependent on tyrannical and deviated governments denounce the call of the oppressed people who convene in the kaaba from countries throughout the world to raise their cries against oppression, as atheistic and un-Islamic.

Stressing that Islam has yet remained veiled and undiscovered, the message added that it was the duty of Muslim ulema, writers, philosophers and researchers, who feel the plight of Muslims, to pool their resources for repelling this great threat which has already engulfed Islam and Muslims.

To materialise Islamic objectives, the message noted, hands of the opponents of Islam should be curtailed from Islamic states and internal and external obstacles should be removed in this respect.

Also, political parties, governments and each and every group or individual who opposed the Islamic movements should be challenged and priority should be given to this enterprise as the first goal to attain throughout the world.

Referring to the political aspects of hajj rituals, the message noted, "the treacherous people have done a lot to overshadow this aspect of the ritual and to put it in oblivion and they will do so in the future." But, it added, at this time, the international wielders of power are busy with their plots for misleading Muslims and for hindering their progress, while on the other hand their selfish agents and mercenaries, as well as groups of illusioned ones and court religious figures are busy with their plots for gradually doing away with the political aspect of the ritual.

Therefore, the message emphasised, it is the duty of self-committed people and sympathisers with Islam who would not see this faith fall into oblivion, to pool their resources in order to give prominence to this aspect of the faith making the best use of their pens and speeches, especially at the time of hajj.

Once having participated in these ceremonies, Muslims can then heed this implication of hajj and proceed to awaken other Muslims and tyrannized people in their own countries as well as in other parts of the world, and mobilize them in order to help them rid themselves from the ever-increasing tyranny of the world tyrants, who incidentally claim to be patrons of peace. The founder of the Islamic Republic further said in his message that the guardianship of the sanctuary was not sufficient, or rather it would be better if the sanctuary were treated such as it was during the time of Abraham or early days of the advent of Islam.

The imam said the blessed and supreme God and the great prophet of Muslims, called out on the greater day that God and prophet stand aloof of the pagans. On that day, he said, the prevailing policy was not that of the United States nor were there court mullahs supporting the interests of the U.S. government or denouncing other Muslims for their opposition to the United States or claiming that the Almighty and the Prophet Mohammad had issues sanctions against the rightful ceremonies of the hajj, or that hajj must be kept free from such concerns.

The leader of the Islamic Revolution of Iran then pointed out a few matters which he expressed hope they will be heeded.

"...It is the duty of those acquainted with religious injunctions to instruct their companions, so that they would not violate the rules for hajj. A political and social perspective of hajj will not be gained unless its spiritual and divine aspects are released...

"...Come to yourself and notice the combatants of the Islamic Republic who have achieved victories for Islam and their Islamic country of which God is pleased, and now there are a number of disabled among you performing the hajj rituals. Look and take a lesson of the great evolution which has brought about their devotion...

"You have come to hajj from a triumphant country (Iran) which, for many years, had struggled against the tyranny of the monarchical regime, and with the blessings of God Almighty and benevolent prayers of the 12th imam, broke the shackles, while tolerating untold hardship, to reach the destination, and presented thousands of martyrs and disabled for Islam. You are conveying the message of a nation which, through its revolution, saved a country which was on the verge of East-toxication. And even more, West-toxication, which was steeped in apostasy, corruption and prostitution, and established the Islamic rule in place of a regime which rebelled against God's command...

"You are representatives of the people whose new-born Islamic Revolution, despite immeasurable difficulties caused as a result of confrontation with the two superpowers, and the Eastern and Western blocs, and sabotage activities of terrorists belonging to them can, only through the blessings of Islam and resistance of the people, awaken Islamic countries and oppressed people throughout the world and attract them to Islam. Echo the message of Islam, even if very low, to the world and attract their attention.

"It is very likely that a group of deviants and enemies of the revolution and Islam may take part in this journey for the purpose of defaming honourable pilgrims and mis-portraying the revolution and, indeed, Islam. They may join the ranks of the honourable pilgrims and commit inappropriate and anti-Islamic acts.

"They might cause some faithful but deceived persons to follow them and create an excuse for the enemies of the revolution, who are carefully watching to find a weak point with Iranian pilgrims and find fault in them...They (pilgrims) should refrain...from such acts.

"Muslims present in the glorious shrines, regardless of whatever nation they be from, should recognise this very well — that the main enemy of Islam and the most generous Koran and the dignified prophet, peace and mercy of God be upon him and his descendants, are the superpowers, especially the United States and its corrupt offspring, Israel.

"They have set a covetous eye upon the Islamic countries and they will not refrain from any crime or conspiracy in order to usurp the vast resources of these countries. The key to their success in this evil plot is sowing discord among Muslim by any means in hajj ceremonies. They might force individuals such as their client mullahs to create differences between Shias and Sunnis...

"Brothers and sisters must know that the United States and Israel are against the very foundation of Islam because they believe Islam, the book and the sunnah to be a thorn in their path and prevent them from usurpation, and because they have seen that Iran rose against them with this very book and sunnah and created a revolution and became victorious.

"I recommended and will recommend respected Iranian pilgrims, who are carrying the message of Islam, the Koran, and the Islamic Revolution, that they should not lose tolerance with Muslims in the holy shrines, whether in Mecca or Medina.

"They should even be peaceful towards the authorities and should not stand up and confront them in those centres, which are safe places. Treat everyone with humanitarian and Islamic manners and discourage all Muslims from violent acts...

"Those in charge of directing peaceful demonstrations must carefully prepare all slogans. Before the start of the demonstrations, those who are aware of various aspects and aware of political and social issues, should consult with my representative Hojjat ol-Eslam Musavi Kho'iniha to prepare the slogans.

"The people should be informed and they should be told that they are obliged to follow the prepared slogans and not respond to other slogans (from trouble-makers) and preserve order and peace.

"The nation and government of Iran, despite facing unwarranted opposition by many of the regional governments, never intends to discard Islamic fraternity and resort to force. The regional states, instead of uniting and saving the region from the domination of the big powers which look upon them as dependents, instead of standing against those who plunder their abundant wealth, particularly their oil, and instead of clearing the region of the filthy existence of Israel, have directed all their efforts into challenging the government and nation of Iran.

"They have joined ranks with the enemy and the aggressor (Iraq) upon Iran, who, if it found the opportunity, would launch an aggression upon the whole region, and conduct an all-out cooperation against Iran whose mere 'guilt' is having institutionalised Islamic tenets.

"They must know however, the Iranian Government, with the great power originating from the blessings of the sublime God as well as the support of a nation of some forty million, has the capability to reciprocate and this has been clearly proven...

"Nevertheless, we have always stretched our brotherly hand towards Islamic countries in an attempt to eliminate the influence of the superpowers.

"Today Saddam Husayn is flouncing about his horrible quagmire looking for an escape route, but his cries reach nowhere. If Iran considered him a normal human being, there might have been hope for him to be saved. But with the insane spirit he has, our nation would not overlook his unforgivable crimes, and leave him alone to continue his treachery, so they keep him in a state between life and death and agonising agitation, until an appropriate time.

"And I, hereby, warn you, governments of the region, to keep away from this plight through consultation with judicious persons and by contemplating on your future, heedless to the promises of America and its friends...

"It would then be much better if the governments of the region mobilise all their forces to eradicate Israel from the earth — a corrupt Israel which has caused the oppressed Palestinians so much pain and the heroic Lebanon so much oppression...

"I advise you as a brother, and now it is up to you. And I warn governments like Egypt, not to be deceived by the U.S. conspiracy, and not to indulge in adventurist acts under the pretext of mining in the Red Sea and the Suez Canal. With so much commotion about the issue, one becomes confident that it is nothing but a conspiracy by the superpowers. As all know this, the main issue is still unknown...

"It would be in the interests of Egypt and the likes, not to let the U.S. and its friends decide their fate and not to involve themselves in conflict without reason."

Musavi Interview on 29 Aug Cabinet Meeting

LD291648 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1123 GMT 29 Aug 84

[Interview with Iranian Prime Minister Mir-Hoseyn Musavi by unidentified reporter following 29 August Cabinet meeting — recorded]

[Text] [Reporter] Mr Musavi, could you tell us what were the most important issues and reports discussed in today's session of the Cabinet?

[Musavi] In the name of God, the compassionate, the merciful. In this session a report was submitted by our brother Mr Gharazi on his visit to Kordestan, which demonstrated the favorable conditions which exist in Kordestan, as well as the progress which

has been made and the difficulties that remain in administrative affairs. Then we heard a report on the airplane hijacking. Thereafter a number of decisions were made and some development projects were discussed.

[Reporter] Considering the imam's guidelines and the division of the Iranian economy into three sections, could you tell us how these activities will be divided among these three sectors [government, private sector, and cooperatives]?

[Musavi] The imam's guidelines always define the government's economic, political, social, and cultural policies.

In this connection, too, in view of his remarks I immediately issued a memorandum to all the executive organizations. This memorandum will gradually have an effect on various departments; although I should stress that the memorandum's emphasis on the private sector has always been the desire of the government, and that this focus will be increased and its activities will be increased. From the report which I submitted to the Majlis it was quite clear that the proportion of investment by the private sector has been increased. The idea to collect and mobilize the capital which is scattered in various hands and to mobilize it for investment will be certainly in the interests of the country's progress. However, this issue has various dimensions; and if we can have a policy which can be followed in all the organizations, the issues will certainly move forward faster and better.

[Reporter] In order that the interested persons do not devote their efforts solely to the trade sector and so that they can engage in activities in the cultural, educational, productive, and agricultural sectors as well, could you please tell us whether or not any programs have been devised by other ministries?

[Musavi] If we can direct these investments toward productive and constructive sectors, it will certainly be more in the interests of the country than if they are concentrated in service sectors. At the moment, investment in the service sectors is very high, and the growth in domestic production to which you referred is quite satisfactory. Nevertheless, in our view their growth in relation to each other is not very healthy. In other words, a great part of the growth is in the service sector, and its proportion, compared to other sectors — the development and productive sectors — should be reduced. In view of this, we should guide investment toward production; although we have no objection if there is also investment in the service sector as well. In this connection, I think that in addition to resolutions, memoranda, and practical discussions, when next year's budget is submitted to the Majlis it can play an important role in deciding the direction of investments. Each of the ministries can also encourage this in their policies and can guide investments toward production. For example, the policies that the Ministries of Industry, Heavy Industries, Agriculture, and Commerce adopt in the use of capital can also encourage the use of investment more in production sectors than in service sectors.

[Reporter] Could you please tell us what will be the supervision provided by the government in improving the activities of the three sectors — government, private sector, and cooperatives.

[Musavi] The government has always provided supervision, but it should increase its supervision. Of course, because of the changes which took place in our economic and political systems after the revolution, the scope of government activities in economic fields was greatly increased — for example, the nationalization of the banks, or confiscation of all the factories, and assets and properties of those associated with the United States, with the arrogant powers, with the traitorous regime of the shah, and those who participated in upholding the former regime. All of this placed a heavy workload on the government. We can also add insurance companies and such like to the above list as well.

As a result, at the moment, the government has a prominent role in financial policies, in economic issues, and in the country's industries. This should be limited in some way. It should not lead to the concentration of everything in the government's hands in the system of the Islamic Republic. For this reason, in the policies which we are now pursuing we are trying to find ways of making use of the activities of the private sector. During the past few years — it began in the year starting on 22 March 1982 and accelerated in the year beginning 22 March 1983 — we noticed a satisfactory trend in private sector investment. The increase in this trend shows progressive growth; it is not an ordinary growth. We hope that with the clear policies which have been set out in the budget pamphlet which has been sent to various organizations, this trend will be further accelerated and that there will be greater security for investment.

A point which is very important and to which I referred in the recent pamphlet and which also requires the cooperation of the Majlis and other organizations, is that the guidelines which we provide concerning economic issues should not be constantly changing, so that one day we move in one direction and another day we move in another direction, or that we constantly change the laws and regulations. This would make for insecurity in investment. The fewer the changes in these regulations, certainly the greater will be the possibility for investment. The same is true in the agricultural sector. In that sector too we must devise laws which do not change much with the passage of time.

In the cooperatives there is need for government supervision which should be exercised in the interest of the Islamic Republic. However, this supervision could be exercised in different ways. The things which are very important concerning this supervision are the laws and regulations which will be passed by the Majlis. It is not something which the government itself can devise and it does not only concern the government to decide how and to what extent it will provide supervision. I think the bill on production which has been submitted to the Majlis will clarify the issue to a great extent and will clarify the scope of government supervision, how far the government should supervise and how far it is allowed to go.

Armed Forces Joint Staff Communique No 1,834

LD291815 Tehran IRNA in English 1720 GMT 29 Aug 84

[Text] Tehran, Aug. 29, IRNA — At least 15 Iraqis were killed or wounded and two artillery pieces, one artillery position, seven group and individual bunkers and several vehicles of the enemy troops were destroyed in the border fronts of Piranshah, Sar

Dasht, Hajj 'Umran, Marivan and Panjwin during the past 24 hours. Announcing this, the Joint Staff Command Communique No. 1,834 issued Wednesday further said that the enemy activities in these fronts were also thwarted.

In Bakhtaran and Ilam fronts, the Iraqi activities were halted and the enemy sustained the loss of two observation posts and two 106-mm guns as well as five troops.

Islamic combatants' fire on the logistic axis of Al-Faw-Basra killed or wounded seven Iraqis while 11 weaponry positions and two observation posts were smashed.

Three houses were damaged in Abadan by Iraqi fire Tuesday and fire broke out in four sectors of the city, concluded the Joint Staff Command communique.

Abadan, Khorramshahr Shelled

LD291813 Tehran IRNA in English 1647 GMT 29 Aug 84

[Text] Ahvaz, Aug. 29, IRNA — One civilian was martyred and three houses were damaged during the past 24 hours when Iraqi long-range fire hit Abadan. Fire broke out in four sectors of the city during the same period.

Meanwhile, Khorramshahr and its surrounding villages came under Iraqi shelling during the mentioned period as a result of which one civilian was martyred. Also, some parts of the city were damaged and fire broke out in Minoo Island, a district of Khorramshahr.

Bushehr Youths, Commandos Leave for Front 29 Aug

GF291807 Bushehr Domestic Service in Persian 1330 GMT 29 Aug 84

[Text] The departure of our noble youths of the Bushehr Province to the fronts of right versus wrong continues on a large scale. According to the Central News Unit, this morning a group of mobilization members from Ganaveh, who were accorded a warm send-off by the Hezbollahi people ubiquitous in this city, left for the fronts of light against darkness from the Islamic Revolution Guards' Corps mobilization center of Ganaveh.

Similarly, a group of commandos and conscripted recruits of the Bushehr second naval district left amid ceremonies for the front of truth against falsehood. They had been addressed by the chief of the politico-ideological department of the second naval district.

Return of Hijacked Plane, Passengers Sought

LD291211 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 29 Aug 84

[Text] Islamic Republic of Iran airlines, in its third statement in connection with the hijacked airbus of the Islamic Republic of Iran, noted that all the passengers and crew are safe and sound. The statement reads:

Efforts are continuing by the Islamic Republic of Iran Airlines and the Civil Aviation Authority, via IATA and ICAO international organizations and other world forums, to ensure the return of the passengers and the hijacked aircraft. Despite the fact that the official aviation authorities of the Iraqi Zionist government have not yet released information in this connection, IATA's general secretary has expressed readiness to dispatch a representative to Iraq should that be necessary.

Commentary Assails Iraqi Role

GF292026 Tehran International Service in Arabic 1800 GMT 29 Aug 84

[Unattributed commentary]

[Excerpt] Despite international denunciation of plane hijackings and despite the moral commitment given by most of the world's countries not provide a haven for hijackers, we find the rulers of Iraq do not observe these considerations or follow the will of international society. On the contrary, they have been supporters of international terrorism and on the side of those who conspire against people and violate sanctities. The Baghdad regime was not satisfied with one infringement of international commitments, but added to that a collection of violations which cannot be ignored. Not only was the hijacked plane forced to head for Iraq after the Kuwaiti authorities refused it permission to land at its airport, but alsoit was transferred to a military airport so that passengers could be interrogated on matters which have absolutely nothing to do with the plane issue.

The hijackers were offered political asylum. This very act is a plain violation of the international laws which regard hijacking as a crime for which the perpetrators should stand trial. The Ba'th rulers were sluggish in ensuring the return of the passengers of the plane — some 206 people — to the Islamic Republic of Iran under the pretext of taking them to visit the holy shrines in Karbala' and An-Najaf. In addition,instead of condemning the hijackers and trying them in a just court, they helped them hold a press conference.

These developments indicate that there are hands acting behind the scenes which expedited the actual execution of the plane issue. It is incredible that developments in this drama would be so coherent and complementary unless there had been hands acting behind the scenes. The whole episode would not have been achieved had it not been part of a quiet scenario designed to make the Islamic Republic appear indecent and, consequently, make the ruling regime in Baghdad appear beautiful and humble. For some time, the ruling regime in Baghdad was searching for a victim to supply its starving leaders. The very thing came true yesterday. The ruling regime was not satisfied, as is evidenced by its continued exploitation of this incident through the media. In all the media, this regime faces questions, the answers of which are known by the Iraqi people.

There is a big question about the existence of the Iraqi fighters in Kuwait's airspace after the Kuwaiti Government's rejection of the hijackers' demands. Did those fighters have a rendezvous with the hijackers in Kuwait's airspace, did Kuwait's Government give a green light to the Iraqi fighters to complete the rest

of the drama, or did the Iraqi fighters have the right to fly in Kuwaiti airspace? These questions are awaiting quick answers from the Kuwaiti Government.

Majlis Speaker Cites Complaint Against FRG

LD2918?. Tehran IRNA in English 1655 GMT 29 Aug 84

[Text] Tehran, Aug 29, IRNA — Majlis Spekaer 'Ali Akbar Hashemi-Rafsanjani told the visiting West German parliamentary delegation Wednesday that unless the Iraqi regime was punished for its aggression against Iran, real peace would never be established between the two countries.

The West parliamentarians said it was clear to them that the Iraqi regime had initiated the war.

Hashemi-Rafsanjani said, "If the rights of the innocent party are not realised and the aggressor is not punished for his crimes, real peace will not take place."

"We have a complaint against the world and your country that you have not used your capabilities to implement justice. In any case despite all these problems, we want peace and whenever there are grounds for a lasting peace that includes the rights of our people, the war will end."

The German parliamentary delegation arrived in Tehran for an official visit on Sunday.

Shapur Bakhtiar Address to UK's Royal Institute

GF271509 London Voice of Iran in English July/August 84 p 4

[Address by Dr Shapur Bakhtiar, leader of the national resistance movement of Iran, to members of London's Royal Institute for International Affairs — date not given]

[Text] Mr. Chairman, ladies and gentlemen,

I feel privileged to be able to address you today in this historic place and at this momentous time in the affairs of one of the most vital regions of the world and in particular, my country, and I am indeed grateful, Mr Chairman, for your kind invitation. You will, I hope, forgive me if I read the speech which I have prepared for this occasion, as I am more accustomed to speaking in Farsi and French than in English.

We meet here today to focus upon one of the most intractable and dangerous of the many threats to world peace. As I talk to you, Iran and Iraq are at war. Thousands of young, innocent people are risking their lives, like thousands and thousands of others who have already lost theirs in the mud, slime, swamps and reeds that make up part of the border between the two countries, which is now the main battleground. Let me emphasise that the Iran-Iraq conflict is not simply a local issue which, if ignored, will disappear in due course. It is in fact a major conflagration that can destablize the entire balance of power in the Persian Gulf region.

For almost 4 years, this war of attrition has claimed hundreds of thousands of lives, both military and civilian, and the major powers have done nothing other than to sell weapons and ammunition to one side and the other.

Let us not forget that over 13 percent of the free world's oil supplies pass through the Straits of Hormuz which Ayatollah Khomeyni has threatened to close, even in disregard of the interests of the regime itself. Indeed, physical closure of the Straits is not necessary; to succeed, he has only to raise the risks to a point which insurers and seafarers cannot accept.

Measures by the Persian Gulf states and by the West may help to keep the Persian Gulf open to shipping in the short term. But the long term security of the region can not be attained unless the present government in Iran is changed.

Mr. Chairman, I have been called by some a revolutionary! The late shah thought I was one and imprisoned me for some six years. Khomeyni considers me a counterrevolutionary and has tried to have me assassinated. In truth, my vision of the Iran of the future — my real objectives — are the establishment of genuine democracy, constitutional monarchy, rule of law and social justice, where the human spirit is free of all kind of tyranny. I want Iran to be a country governed according to a democratic constitution which upholds the rights of the citizen while ensuring the just and necessary claim of the state. I want Iran to be a country where social justice prevails, and where the private sector plays a major role in the economy, and initiative and enterprise will find their just rewards.

I want an independent, free, strong and respected Iran, playing her rightful part in the region and the world, a friend to all nations who value our friendship, a good and responsible neighbour, and a stabilizing force in a turbulent area.

Let us take a step back, and briefly analyse what has happened to Iran in the past 5 years or so.

The late shah embarked on a policy of liberalisation too late without laying the groundwork for the institutions that could support a modern, rapidly expanding, westward-looking Iran. He ran into difficulties. Iran is a country with an ancient culture including a religious heritage which has its roots not only in Islam but also in pre-Islamic faiths. Her roots are deep and her sense of independence a matter of pride for the Iranian people. However, the shah was advised badly, and placed too much emphasis on economic development, which admittedly gave the people a higher standard of living than ever before. But unfortunately he neglected the importance of the need for the development of social and political institutions and the significance of our cultural and spiritual heritage.

By late 1978, after several government changes, when everything was crumbling about the shah, he sought out democratic forces which had remained active during his entire reign, and ultimately called on me to form a government.

Sadly, it was too late by then. The Islamic fervor was too strong, the people believed that the Ayatollah could put matters right and restore unity and confidence to a people set adrift. The

peoples expectations were high. They expected a just government, fair administration and a period of stability. Mr Chairman, they have been cruelly betrayed.

Today, the Iranian people are being brutalised by a twisted theocracy. Thousands of innocent people have been executed in the past 5 years at the whim of Revolution Guards for no better reason than their political views, their beliefs or their social attitudes. Families have been separated and destroyed, prisoners are held without trial or sentenced by kangaroo courts run by gun-carrying clergymen. The Revolution Guards control the country and the extremists among the clergy control the guards, while the Army is interminably tied up in a pointless war on our borders. Now, the regime has begun to use thousands of school children and teenagers as cannon fodder, sending them to the front to clear minefields and to expose themselves to the most deadly risks. As we meet here, in such civilised surroundings, this sounds like a horror story dreamed up by some demented mind — but all I am saying is true; alas, the horror is real and the brutality continues. Mr. Chairman, since Khomeyni came to power in 1979, nearly 400,000 Iranians have met a violent death.

Today, Iranian industry is in a shambles; agriculture is in a disasterous state; inflation is running high; and over 30 percent of the labor force is unemployed. Essential goods are in critically short supply, and the whole economy creaks along only because Iran has oil to sell.

Last year, 1983, Britain sold to Iran goods and services worth 620 million pounds — only 60 percent in real terms of her sales to Iran in the previous regime's last year, 1978 — and there is no real prospect of developing the huge trading potential between our two countries whilst Khomeyni remains in power, as he has no understanding of the economics of the modern world, looking to the seventh century as a golden age and trying to impose that century's social and legal standards and conditions on Iranians today.

Although the Iranian people are brutalised by the regime, they are a patriotic people and so they continue to fight, to defend their borders, irrespective of whether they are Sunni or Shi'ite Muslims, and whether they love or hate Khomeyni.

But the Ayatollah has now come to the end of the road.

Khomeyni can no longer hide the fact that he reigns by fear alone. Khomeyni can no longer hide the fact that there is deep war-weariness in the country. Khomeyni can no longer hide the fact that the people are looking to leaders outside the country for help. Khomeyni can no longer hide the fact that the Army will move against him if the war ends. On the other hand the Army officers know that Khomeyni will destroy the professional Army as soon as it has served his purposes and that he will replace it with his revolutionary fanatics.

Mr Chairman, my struggle against tyranny began long ago when I fought alongside the French against Hitler. My struggle continued even though the shah threw me into prison, and today I have the honour to lead the national movement of Iranian resistance, the largest movement of resistance to Khomeyni's regime. We are well organised, both within and without the country. My radio stations broadcast daily to our people and my letters, newspapers and speeches are circulated through an underground network to the Iranian population. I am myself the leader of the Bakhtiari tribe, and I have close relations with the other tribal leaders, the merchant classes, the moderate clergy, and the officers of our Army. Khomeyni knows this and his attempts to kill me in Paris are the proof that he regards us as a real threat to his regime.

We have been, and are now engaged in both military and para-military activities in Iran, not without tragic losses. You will excuse me if I do not go into detail for security reasons. Mr Chairman, our struggle will continue until we topple Khomeyni's odious regime and free the people of Iran from the tyranny that they ahve suffered for far too long.

The establishment of a modern democracy in Iran is my goal. I am utterly opposed to the restoration of an absolute monarch but I see positive reasons for a constitutional monarchy broadly similar to the one you have here in Englad. The young shah, with whom I have a clear understanding and a working relationship, can indeed have a role to play as a constitutional monarch and to be a focus of unity.

Last February, I asked the people of Iran, in a radio broadcast, not to celebrate the establishment of the Ayatollah's regime and to stay indoors. This they did. Furthermore, I asked our people last August to celebrate the anniversary of the 1906 constitution. This they did in their hudnreds of thousands. The only reason that the Ayatollah's regime has to kill, torture and imprison so many people is that there are so many who are working against him.

He no longer enjoys the support of a majority of the Iranian people — that is obvious — and his henchmen no longer enjoy the support of the majority of the Islamic clergy. So today there is the opportunity for a coalition of democratic forces including intellectuals, middle class liberals, Army officers, tribesmen and working classes to replace the Ayatollah's regime with a just and constitutional government.

When that day comes, Mr. Chairman, Iran will have to be rebuilt. Our vast natural riches, including oil and gas, will be used to provide for the welfare and prosperity of our people instead of being wasted, as it is now, on a futile war and upon dangerous and useless attempts to impose Islamic fundamentalism by force upon neighbouring and distant countries and peoples. In this great endeavour we shall need vastly to expand and diversify our international trade and commercial and financial relations.

Mr Chairman, Iran unlike the other countries in the region is not a single commodity economy. Notably, Iran has a large and trained population, it also has vast mineral resources such as coal, copper and iron, not to mention a potentially strong agricultural base.

Mr. Chairman, I have tried in the limited time available to give you very briefly an account of the situation as I see it. And it is a very grim picture.

We Iranians know that what has to be done must be done by ourselves, and we do not expect you or any of our other friends to do our work for us. Furthermore, we recognize that Britain lives by trade and we do not expect you to sacrifice your interests for our sake. Nevertheless, Mr. Chairman, I have to tell you that of all our friends in the West, Britain has been the least disposed to give us moral and diplomatic support, and that despite your expressed disapproval of his cruelty, Khomeyni has received from Britain more tacit acceptance and material benefit than from France or the United States. You will recall that when Khomeyni lived in exile in Paris, as, ironically, I do now, the voice of the BBC was one of his most effective weapons against the regime. That voice today is ambivalent and does not, therefore, assist those who are struggling against tyranny in Iran. In particular, it is sometimes unable to distinguish those who believe in democracy from those who do not.

We look to Britain as a bastion of democracy. We look to Britain as an advocate of government by the rule of law, and as a constitutional monarchy where the will of the people reigns supreme. Mr. Chairman, we ask Britain — and all of you here today — to accept the responsibility that history has placed upon you, and use your influence in a positive way to help those democratic forces who will overthrow Khomeyni to the mutual advantage of both our peoples as well as that of all the countries of the region.

Emigre Paper Cites Doctor on Khomeyni's Health

GF300932 London KAYHAN in Persian 23 Aug 84 p 15

[Text] Last week when the ISLAMIC REPUBLIC NEWS AGENCY denied rumors of Khomeyni's death, the Swiss doctor who has been treating Khomeyni said that he should not be considered as living actively. According to the doctor, Khomeyni lives in a state of "vegetation" and is very weak. He is shown to the people on occasions but no longer receives anyone.